

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's finding of allowable subject matter at claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10 and 12 is appreciatively noted.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, claim 16 has now been amended to self-standing independent format including all of the limitations of amended claim 17. Claim 19 has been cancelled as it would otherwise become substantially duplicative of amended claim 16.

Accordingly, all outstanding formal issues are now believed to have been resolved in the applicant's favor.

In view of the Examiner's findings of allowable subject matter, independent claim 1 has been amended so as to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 2 thus placing claim 1 in fully allowed status. Allowed dependent claims 3-5 have also been amended to self-standing allowed format.

Since claim 6 depends from now amended allowable claim 1, it is also believed to be in allowable condition for at least this reason.

Claim 7 depends from allowable claim 3 and is thus also believed to be in allowed condition.

Allowed claims 8, 10 and 12 have also been amended above to self-standing allowed format. Dependent claim 9 is of course also now in allowable condition as it

depends from allowed claim 1 (as above amended to include the limitations of allowable dependent claim 2).

Independent method claim 17 has now been amended so as to also include the substance of allowable claim 2 and is thus believed to be in allowable condition (as is claim 16 drawn to a tangible storage medium containing a computer program, etc. for performing the method of claim 17 when executed).

Claim 18 depends from allowable claim 17 and is thus also believed to be allowable for at least this reason.

Independent claim 20 has also been amended so as to include the features of allowable claim 2 and is thus believed to be in allowable condition.

New dependent claims 21-29 correspond to original claims 3-10 and 12 respectively but now depend directly or indirectly from amended allowable claim 1.

Accordingly, all now pending claims are believed to be in fully allowed condition.

The rejection of claims 1, 6, 9 and 16-20 (prior to the above amendment) under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by newly cited Bisdikian '406 is respectfully traversed.

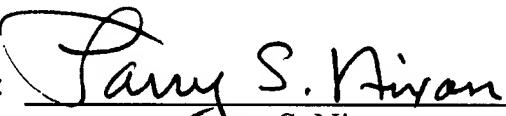
However, in view of the above amendments and the mooting of such outstanding grounds of rejection, it is not believed necessary at this time to detail the reasons for such traversal. Suffice it to note that the Examiner has already appreciated the fact that Bisdikian at least fails to teach or suggest features now found in each still pending claim.

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Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition
and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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